

MILPERSMAN 1220-010

AIRCREW PROGRAM

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References	(a) OPNAVINST 3710.7U (b) SECNAVINST 5510.30B (c) COMNAVCRUITCOMINST 1130.8J (d) BUPERSINST 1326.4E
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1. **Background.** The Aircrew (AIRC) and the Aircrew Rescue Swimmer (AIRR) Programs provide opportunities for recruits and fleet personnel to become career enlisted aircrew. AIRC and AIRR for recruits are 6-year obligation (6-YO) advanced technical field (ATF) enlistment programs that guarantee class "A" school as well as follow-on advanced schools (AWF, AWO, AWR, AWS, or AWV). Applicants must volunteer for flying duty (see MILPERSMAN 1220-020), be capable of performing swim qualifications per reference (a), and pass an aviation flight physical.

2. **Qualifications Required**

a. **Age.** Applicants must be 30 years of age or less at time of enlistment or reenlistment. Waivers for Active Component (AC) and Reserve Component (RC) full-time support (FTS) fleet volunteers will be considered by Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS), Aviation Enlisted Community Manager (ECM) (BUPERS-32) on a case-by-case basis.

b. **Physical Conditioning.** AIRC and AIRR are high risk and physically demanding programs that require above average physical fitness standards and strong swimmer skills. Applicants must pass the Navy physical fitness assessment (PFA) with a grade of "satisfactory" in all categories prior to commencement of Naval Aircrew Candidate School (NACCS). Members must pass a PFA with a "good" in all categories for their respective age and gender to graduate NACCS. Additionally, this

same standard must be maintained throughout the aircrew training cycle. Nonswimmers cannot successfully complete the program; therefore, should not apply.

c. **Security Clearance Required.** Applicants must be eligible for, adjudicated, and maintain a Secret level security clearance. Some billets may require Personal Reliability Program (PRP) as specified in reference (b).

d. **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB).** Applicants must meet the current ASVAB score requirements per MILPERSMAN 1306-618.

3. **AIRC and AIRR Statements of Understanding for Initial Accessions.** **ALL** initial accession applicants applying for the AIRC must read and sign the Aircrew Program Statement of Understanding (Exhibit 1) on NAVPERS 1070/613 Administrative Remarks. **All** initial accession applicants applying for AIRR must read and sign the Aircrew Program Statement of Understanding and the Rescue Swimmer Program Statement of Understanding (Exhibit 2) on NAVPERS 1070/613. Classifiers must sign as witness, per reference (c), as part of the applicant's enlistment process. This document must be filed in the enlistment package for forwarding to recruit training center upon the member's shipping.

4. **AIRC and AIRR Statements of Understanding for Fleet Accessions.** **ALL** fleet volunteers and those converted or reclassified into AIRC must read and sign the Aircrew Program Statement of Understanding on NAVPERS 1070/613. **All** fleet volunteers and those converted or reclassified into the AIRR must read and sign the Aircrew Program Statement of Understanding and the Rescue Swimmer Program Statement of Understanding on NAVPERS 1070/613.

5. **Service School Assignments.** For strikers and recruits, the AIRC and AIRR provide assignment to a Class "A" School in any of the career aircrew source ratings listed below. The specific Class "A" School to be assigned will be based on the member's qualifications, personal desires, and needs of the Navy.

Career Aircrew Source Ratings (new accessions and fleet volunteers)	AWF, AWO, AWR, AWS, AWV
NonCareer Aircrew Source Ratings (fleet volunteers only and assigned flight orders as per reference (d))	CTI, CTT, CTR, HM, CS, MC

6. **Training Cycle**. The training pipeline for **all** aircrew candidates is:

- a. Recruit Training Command (RTC);
- b. NACCS, Pensacola;
- c. Aviation Rescue Swimmer School (ARSS), Pensacola (rescue swimmers only);
- d. Class "A" School, Pensacola;
- e. Fleet replacement squadron (FRS) at various locations and VP-30 for observer course; and
- f. Initial assignment.

7. **Terms of Enlistment**. Applicants enlist in the United States Navy as AC or RC-FTS for 4 years and concurrently execute a NAVPERS 1070/621 Agreement to Extend Enlistment, NAVPERS 1070/622 Agreement to Recall, or extend active duty for 24 months using the following narrative for entry:

"Training in the Aircrew Program and accelerated advancement to pay grade E-4 per MILPERSMAN 1220-010. Accelerated advancement to E-4 is authorized only after successful completion of Naval Aircrew Candidate School (NACCS), Class "A" School, and fleet replacement squadron (FRS) training. I understand that this extension becomes binding upon execution and may not thereafter be cancelled except as provided for in MILPERSMAN 1160-040."

NAVPERS 1070/621 or NAVPERS 1070/622 shall be executed on the day member is enlisted (initial accession). Fleet applicants shall obligate 5 years per MILPERSMAN 1306-618.

8. **Apprenticeship and Pay Grade**

a. Individuals who are accepted into the AIRC and AIRR, successfully complete FRS training, and are awarded the appropriate aircrew Navy enlisted classification (NEC) code are authorized accelerated advancement to pay grade E-4 per reference (c).

b. New accessions accepted for AIRC and AIRR shall be enlisted at pay grade E-1. This is not to preclude enlistment

at pay grade E-2 or E-3 per reference (c). Fleet applicants are accepted in present pay grade.

c. If a member is disqualified for aircrew duties prior to advancement to pay grade E-4, eligibility for accelerated advancement to E-4 is terminated. This shall not preclude advancement to E-2 or E-3 based on normal advancement criteria.

d. Accelerated advancement to pay grade E-4 requires a 6-year total active duty obligation. If a member is reduced in rate subsequent to accelerated advancement to E-4, there is no reduction in active obligated service.

9. Disqualification and Disenrollment

a. Those who fail to remain qualified for this program will be disenrolled from aircrew training per reference (d). Applicants must be specifically counseled if they attrite, drop on request (DOR), request removal from flight status, refuse a set of aircrew orders, nonvolunteer for any other reason per reference (d), or are found not desirable for continuation in the Aircrew Program.

b. Cancellation of extension of enlistment for disenrollment from AIRC and AIRR shall be executed per MILPERSMAN 1160-040 and 1510-030.

c. Applicants advanced to E-4 who subsequently attrite shall retain their extension obligation.

d. Aircrew and rescue swimmer personnel who are permanently disqualified after being rated for flying duties and fail to meet all training requirements shall be "duty involving flight as a crewmember" (DIFCREW) revoked or removed from the program per reference (d). In addition, members must submit a force conversion package, per MILPERSMAN 1440-010, within 30 days of receipt of revocation message.

e. Sailors who execute orders for conversion and subsequently fail to complete the formal training required for conversion may be processed for separation per MILPERSMAN 1910-133.

f. Fleet accessions or fleet AWs (i.e., AWF, AWO, AWR, AWS, or AWV) disqualified for medical reasons shall submit a force conversion package per MILPERSMAN 1440-010.

g. **DOR.** AIRC and AIRR are volunteer programs; as directed by reference (d), participants must sign NAVPERS 1070/613 which states "I Volunteer to Fly." A DOR at any time during training (e.g., military entrance processing station, RTC, NACCS, ARSS, Class "A" School, FRS, or any subsequent training thereafter) is cause for disqualification and disenrollment from AIRC and AIRR.

h. Admitted **pre-service** drug usage shall be processed per MILPERSMAN 1306-618 and will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the ECM as to whether or not the member will be disqualified.

10. **Disposition of Members Disenrolled**

a. AIRC and AIRR are voluntary programs; participants may be disenrolled or DOR at any time. Fleet Sailors are subject to forced conversion per MILPERSMAN 1440-010. Additionally, those who DOR are considered nonvolunteers for the AIRC and AIRR Programs and are not eligible for reinstatement.

b. Process disenrolled personnel as follows:

(1) **RTC.** Per Navy Recruiting Command reclassification guidance.

(2) **NACCS.** NACCS attrites will be disqualified from AIRC and AIRR and made available to meet the "needs of the Navy." New accessions shall be reclassified per MILPERSMAN 1236-020; however, assignment to Class "A" School is not guaranteed.

(3) **ARSS.** Members disenrolled from ARSS training are not eligible for automatic advancement to E-4 and may not necessarily be retained in the Aircrew Program. Members who fail to complete the school for academic reasons will be disqualified from AIRC and AIRR and made available to meet the needs of the Navy. New accessions shall be reclassified per MILPERSMAN 1236-020.

(4) **Class "A" School and FRS.** Members who fail to complete class "A" or FRS school for academic reasons will be disqualified from the AIRC and made available to meet the needs of the Navy. New accessions shall be reclassified per MILPERSMAN 1236-020.

(5) All aircrew-related NECs shall be administratively removed by Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM), Aviation Assignments Branch (PERS-404), NAVPERSCOM, Reserve Personnel Management, (PERS-9), or Naval Air Reserve Force (N7) for members who fail to meet all training requirements. For suspension and revocation procedures for disqualified career enlisted flyers and non-career aircrew refer to reference (d).

(6) Aircrew members who have been DIFCREW revoked are not eligible for participation in a Navy-wide advancement exam, consideration by an advancement selection board, or advancement in any aviation warfare systems operator rating. Members who have requested a waiver of medical standards by Naval Aerospace Medical Institute will remain eligible for advancement until adjudication of waiver request.

11. Application Submission

a. Fleet AIRC and AIRR applicants shall submit an application through use of a NAVPERS 1306/7 Enlisted Personnel Action Request to BUPERS, Enlisted Community Management (BUPERS-32) via their commanding officer, citing this article as a reference.

b. The application package should include a certified copy of the following:

(1) Flight physical;

(2) Second class swim qualification;

(3) Last two evaluations. Member must have at least 3.0 on all evaluation and or fitness report performance traits, and have been recommended for retention as "promotable" or higher within the past 24 months;

(4) ASVAB scores;

(5) Signed copies of both the Aircrew and Rescue Swimmer Statements of Understanding;

(6) Satisfactory score on most recent PFA; and

(7) Secret clearance.

Exhibit 1

Aircrew Program Statement of Understanding

(Use proper letter format containing the following)

"[DATE]: I, [member's name], am volunteering for the Aircrew Program. I understand the following concerning rigorous physical requirements of the Aircrew Program:

1. I am volunteering for aircrewman duty, which necessarily includes Naval Aircrewman Candidate School. If I voluntarily disenroll from training as an aircrewman student, I will no longer be eligible for further aircrew training. Initial: _____

2. I can swim. Initial: _____

3. I must pass the Navy physical fitness assessment (PFA) with a "satisfactory" in all categories to enter aircrew school. Initial: _____

4. I must meet the following minimum physical fitness requirements to **graduate** from aircrew school:

a. Be able to perform extensive daily calisthenics.

b. Pass a Navy PFA with a "good" in all categories for my age and gender.

c. Swim:

(1) 1 mile in flight suit in 80 minutes or less using sidestroke, breaststroke, or American crawl.

(2) 100 yards in full flight gear (flight suit, boots, helmet, gloves, and deflated life preserver) using each of the survival strokes for 25 yards (sidestroke, breaststroke, elementary backstroke, and American crawl), followed immediately by a 5-minute drown-proofing (face down prone float).

(3) In full flight gear, tread water for 2 minutes followed immediately by 3 minutes of drown-proofing.

(4) 200 yards (50 yards each breaststroke, elementary backstroke, sidestroke, and American crawl).

(5) Jump from a 12-foot tower and then swim 15 yards underwater wearing flight suit and boots using a modified breaststroke, immediately followed by floating using trouser inflation techniques.

(6) 75 yard flight equipment swim; 25 yards sidestroke; 25 yards breaststroke; 25 yards elementary backstroke; and 25 yards American crawl.

Initial: _____

(I must be able to pass a Navy PFA with a score of "good" in all categories for my age, gender at anytime during the "training cycle".)

Signature (Aircrew Volunteer): _____ Date: _____

WITNESSED: _____ Date: _____

(Commanding Officer, Executive Officer,
Command Master Chief, or Command Career Counselor)

Encl(1)

Exhibit 2

Rescue Swimmer Program Statement of Understanding

(Use proper letter format containing the following)

NOTE: AIRR/rescue swimmer candidates must sign both the Aircrew and Rescue Swimmer Statements of Understanding.

Rescue Swimmer Program Statement of Understanding

"[DATE]: I [member' name] am/am not [circle one] volunteering for training as a helicopter rescue swimmer. I understand rescue swimmers may be required to risk their lives during a rescue at sea. They are trained to conduct rescues efficiently, effectively, and safely. In most rescue situations, the swimmer leaves the helicopter and enters the ocean. Upon reaching the survivor, the swimmer removes the parachute and prepares the survivor for hook-up to the rescue device. A survivor in a state of panic may force the swimmer underwater, but techniques taught to the swimmer will help to overcome this resistance. Once the swimmer and survivor are in the aircraft, the swimmer provides advanced first-aid until medical assistance is available.

Initial: _____

1. In order to commence training at Rescue Swimmer School, I must be able to complete the following:

- a. 500-meter swim wearing mask, fins, and snorkel in 12 minutes or less.
- b. 1.5-mile run in 12 minutes or less.
- c. 42 push-ups in 2 minutes or less.
- d. 50 sit-ups in 2 minutes or less.
- e. 4 pull-ups in 2 minutes or less.

Initial: _____

2. **To graduate** from Rescue Swimmer School, I must do the following during the course of training:

- a. 90 minutes of intensive calisthenics and 30-35 minute cross-country runs daily.
- b. 800-meter swim in 20 minutes wearing rescue swimmer equipment (mask, fins, snorkel, short wetsuit, and search and rescue (SAR) Harness with deflated floatation).
- c. 400-meter buddy tow in 16 minutes wearing rescue swimmer equipment.
- d. 2000-meter swim in 50 minutes wearing rescue swimmer equipment.
- e. 4 pull-ups in a flight suit and boots within 2 minutes.
- f. Carry two 50-pound dumbbells 100 yards on flat terrain over 4 obstacles 12-14 inches in height within 2 minutes.
- g. Walk 1 mile with a MEDEVAC litter within 16 minutes.
- h. Swim 500 meters in SAR gear immediately followed by 400 meter buddy tow within 27 minutes.
- i. Weekly strength training with free weights and machines.
- j. Successfully complete CPR for professional rescuer.

Initial: _____

The Aircrew Program and, in particular, rescue swimmer training are physically demanding and require strong swimmer skills. My success will depend upon my own physical preconditioning program, which I have established for myself prior to reporting. I understand that I must first meet all requirements set forth for the Aircrew Program in addition to those for rescue swimmer training.

Signature (Aircrew Volunteer): _____ Date: _____

WITNESSED: _____ Date: _____
(Commanding Officer, Executive Officer,
Command Master Chief, or Command Career Counselor)

Encl (2)